

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A communication device can reliably find a frequency and establish frequency synchronization, despite relying on a variable reference frequency, and may do so, *e.g.*, by searching only during one or more periods of frequency stability. Once gained, such synchronization may be held continuously. An acquisition unit receives from a control unit information about a frequency change of a reference signal. The acquisition unit may nonetheless continue to search for, *e.g.*, a satellite at the frequency that had been in use before the frequency change of the reference signal. An acquisition unit in such a device may search over extended periods, *e.g.*, by using two or more frequency-stable periods. The acquisition unit may, *e.g.*, transmit information about a change in the reference frequency to a tracking unit to maintain synchronization with the satellite.